

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

Burma/Yugoslavia/China/USSR

REPORT NO.

SUBJECT

1. Yugoslav Military Aid to Burma
2. Burmese Attempts to Procure Military Aid

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1. The Burmese troops now have the Chinese Nationalists on the run. This successful military action has been possible because the Burmese troops are equipped with mountain howitzers and mortars given free of charge to Burma by the Government of Yugoslavia. Previous efforts in similar terrain had been greatly handicapped by difficulty in moving heavy British field pieces over mountains and through jungles. New Yugoslav pieces are transported on only two mules and are extremely effective. With enough such weapons, the Government of Burma can drive all insurgents, including the Chinese Nationalists, out of Burma. The Yugoslav gift was most useful but not enough for Burmese needs.¹

2. Burma has never had an offer of arms, either as a gift or for sale, from either the Soviet Union or Communist China and Burma has never thought of approaching either for help.

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